

# High Specific Impulse Electrospray Explorer for Deep Space (HiSPEED)

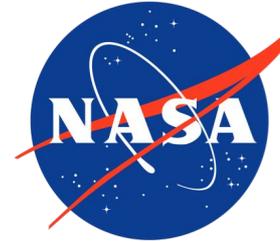
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Cooperative Agreement (CA) number:  
80NSSC18M0045

# Acknowledgements

Thanks to NASA for their support:

- Swati Mohan (Collaborator - JPL)
- Jim Crockell (STP)
- Sasha Weston (STP)
- Rodolphe De Rosee (Ames)



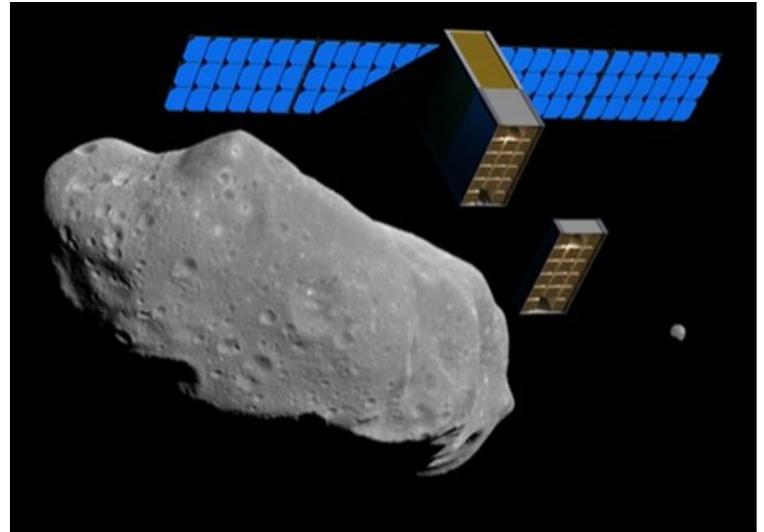
MIT Team:

- Oliver Jia-Richards
- Gustav Pettersson
- Graduate and undergraduate students



# HiSPEED: Enabling a Deep Space Revolution

- Today, deep space missions are rare and expensive
- SmallSats' lower costs would
  - Increase science return
  - Empower more players
  - Develop future technologies
  - Diversify exploration
- CubeSat technology almost there
  - Deep space systems survival
  - Capable Instrumentation
- **HiSPEED to unlock propulsion**



# HiSPEED Components and Team

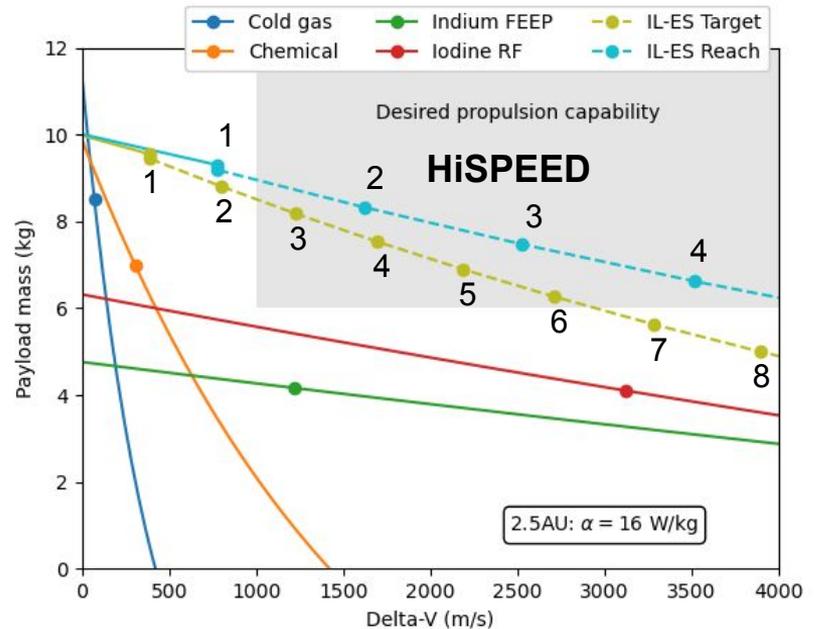
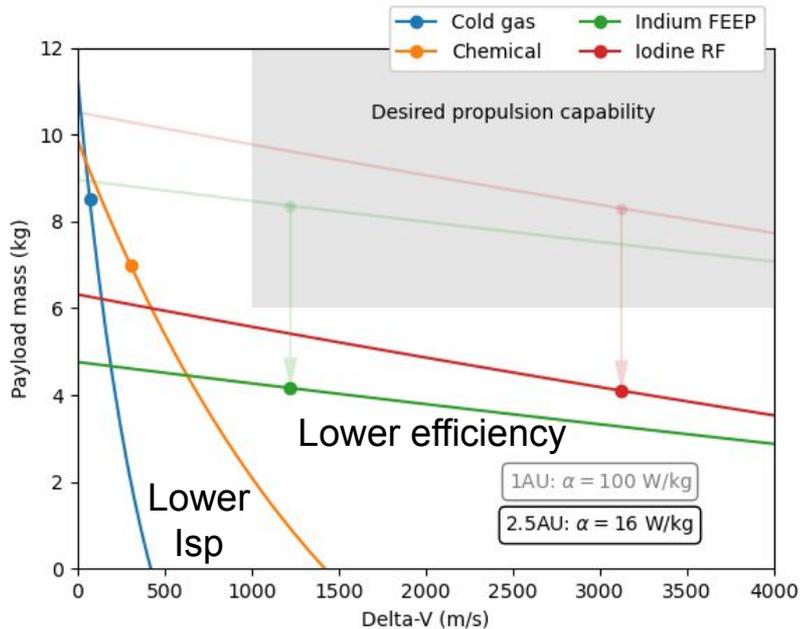
**Propulsion (MIT)**  
Staged Ionic-Liquid  
Electrospray

**Missions (MIT/JPL)**  
Deep-Space Trajectories  
and Proximity Operations

**Controls (JLP)**  
Small Satellite  
Dynamics Testbed

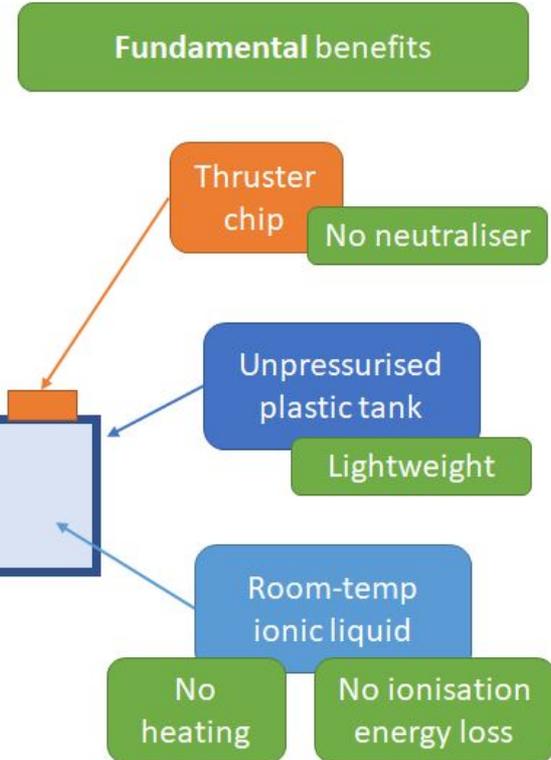
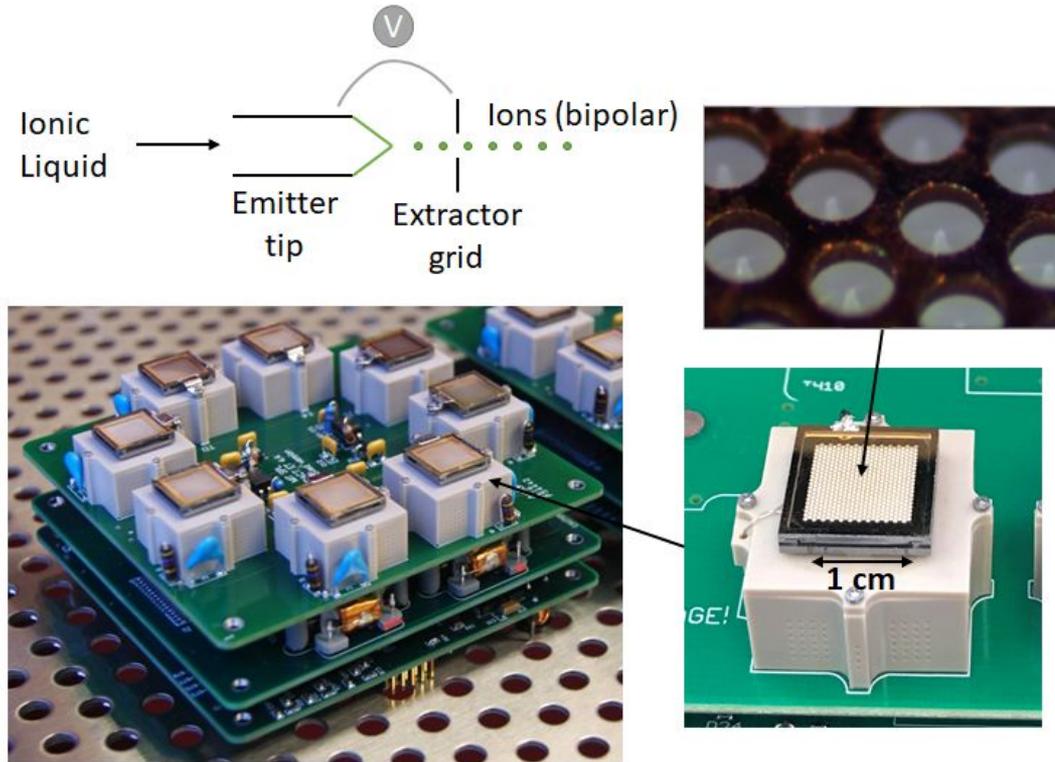
**Systems (JPL)**  
Team Xc Study

# Staged Electrosprays Fill the Propulsion Gap



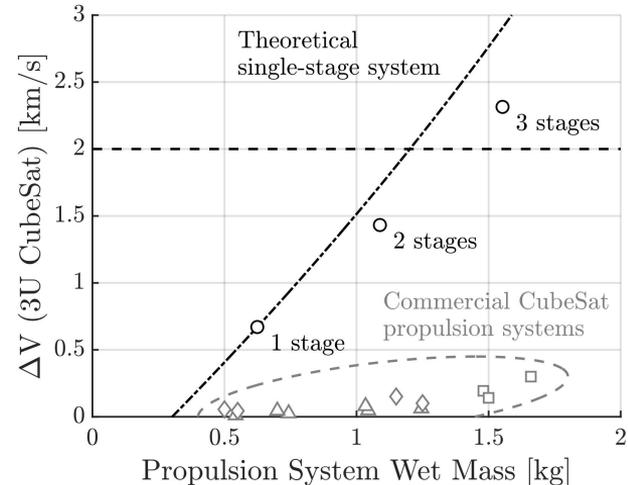
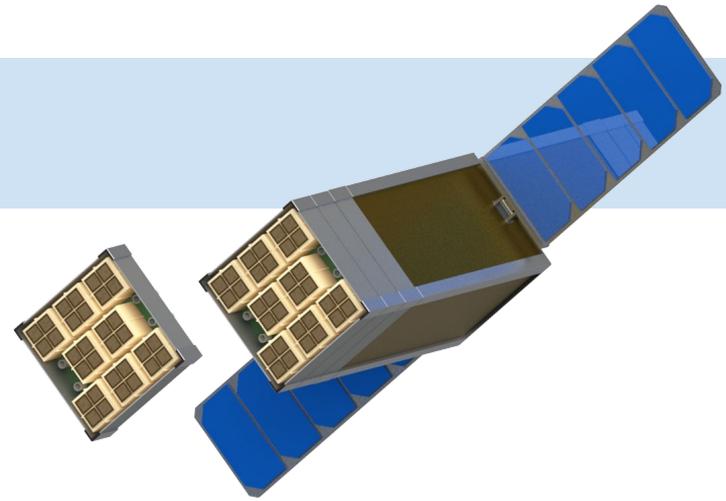
Deep-space (asteroid belt) payload vs delta-V for a 6U CubeSat.

# Ionic-Liquid Electrospays are Fundamentally Efficient



# Staging Principle

- Several sets of thrusters overcomes lifetime limit
- Fundamental benefits of technology preserved
  - **High specific impulse**
  - **High efficiency**
  - **Several km/s  $\Delta V$**
- Enabled with **present** technology
  - Thrusters
  - PPU
  - Staging (STEP-1)

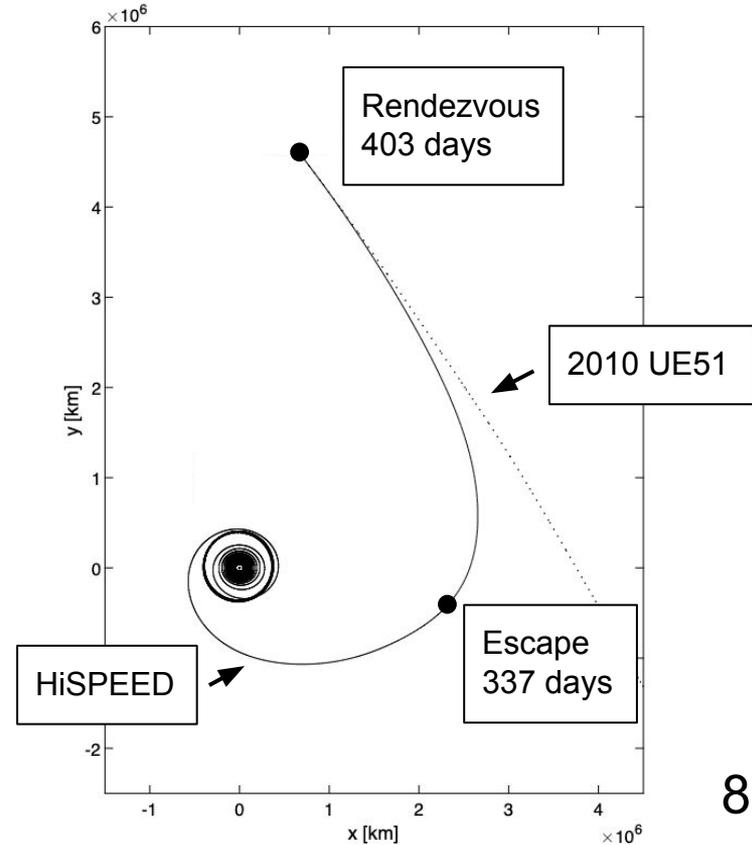
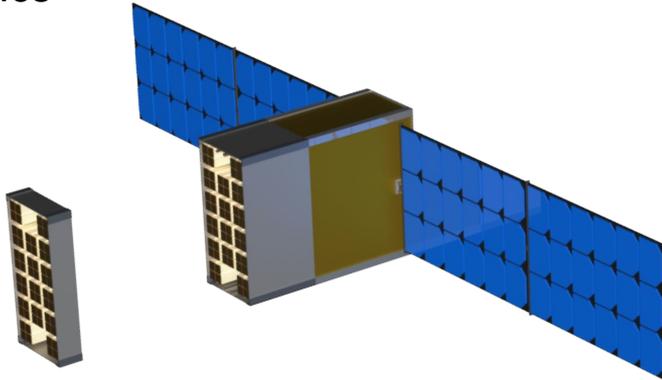


# Feasibility Study

Conducted through a study by the JPL Team Xc  
Concurrent Design Center

Mission from geostationary orbit around Earth to the  
near-Earth asteroid 2010 UE51

Design closes for both current and future thruster  
performance metrics



# STEP-1 – Staged Electrospray Pathfinder 1

Before embarking on a deep-space mission we will fly a technology demo

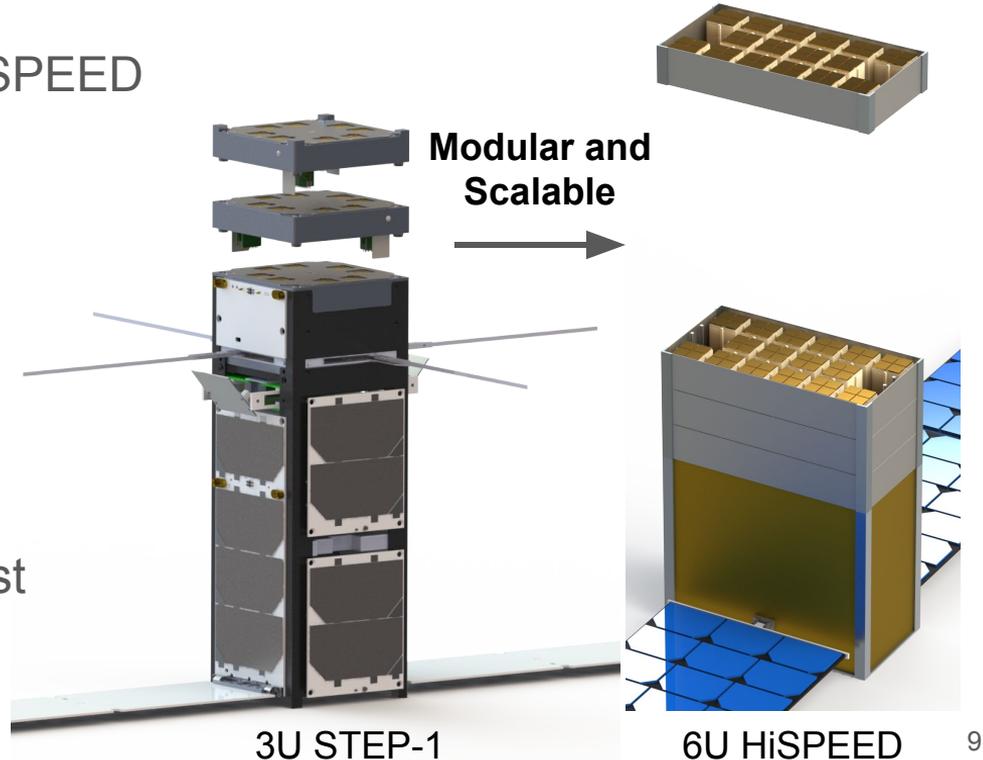
STEP-1 Demonstrates:

- Last major technology step for HiSPEED
- Propulsion scaling and modularity
- Thruster technology efficiency
- Propellant microvalve operation

STEP-1 Provides:

- Thruster flight qualification
- Staging flight qualification
- Student training in design/build/test

STEP-1 was selected for NASA CSLI

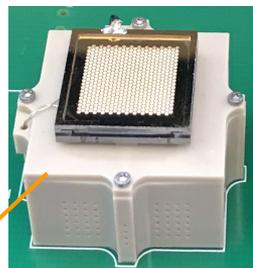


3U STEP-1

6U HiSPEED

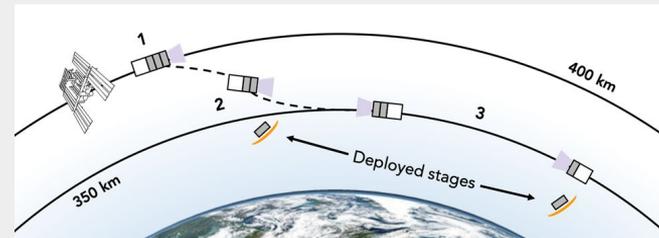
# STEP-1 Design and Operations

$\Delta V \sim 10$  m/s per stage in STEP-1 scales to HiSPEED with  $\Delta V \sim 1$  km/s per stage and  $\sim 60\%$  efficiency

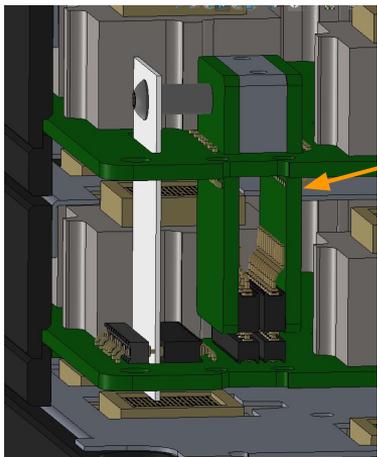


Thruster ( $\sim 1$ cm)

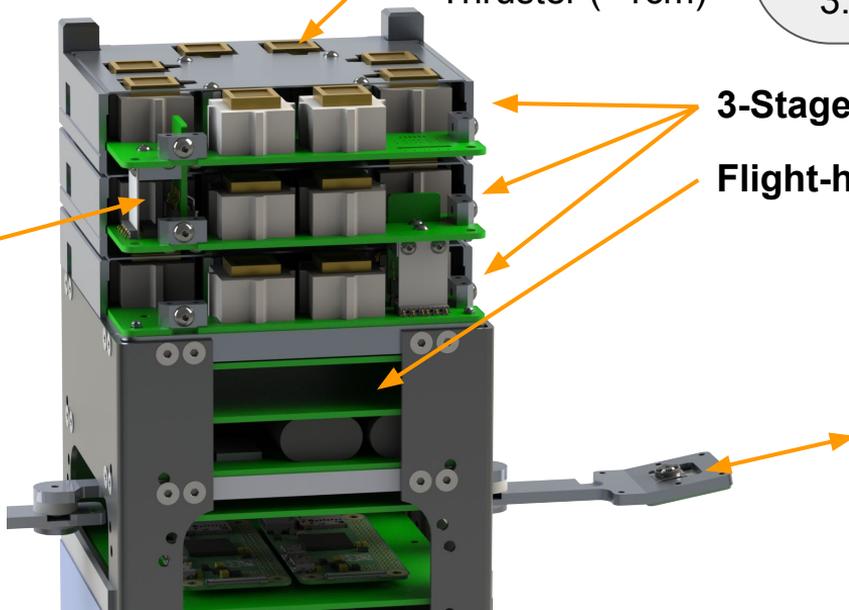
## STEP-1 CONOPS from ISS launch



1. Deployment to low-Earth orbit
2. Reduce orbit and stage demo
3. Trajectory and attitude control

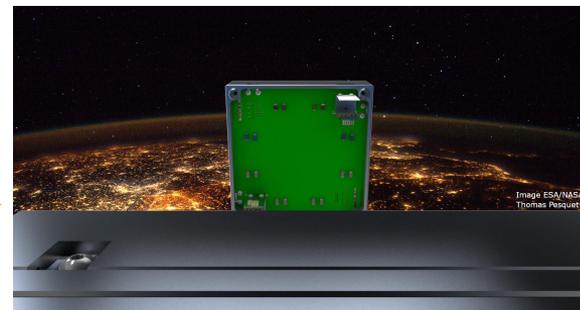


Interstage



3-Stage electro spray propulsion

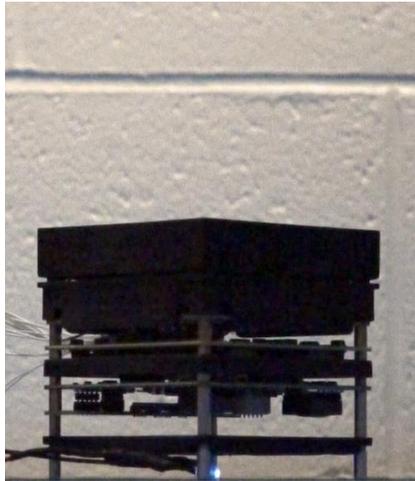
Flight-heritage PPU



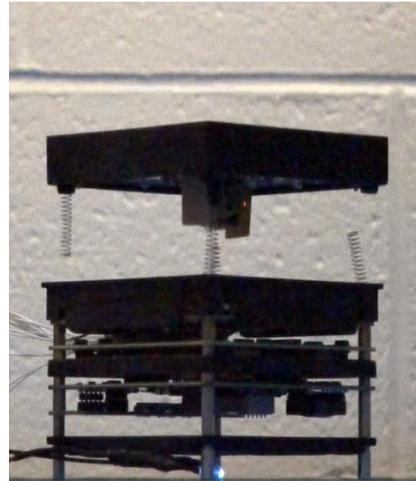
High frame rate recording

# STEP-1 Staging Prototype Results

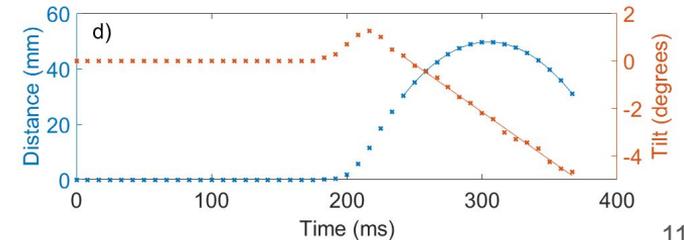
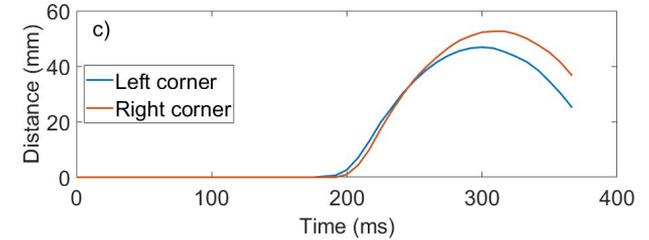
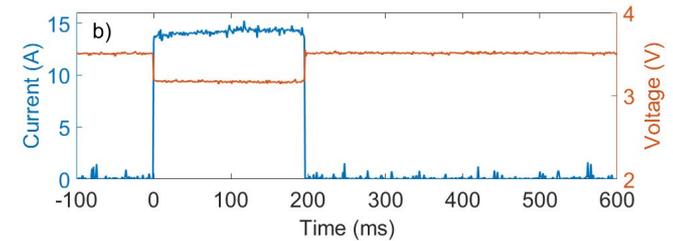
- Fully integrated payload prototype
  - 200 ms, 14 A to separate
  - 0.64 m/s separation speed



t = 0 ms



t = 250 ms



# STEP-1 Team and Status

## Principal Inv.

Prof. Paulo Lozano  
MIT AeroAstro - SPL

## PhD Students

Gustav Pettersson  
Oliver Jia-Richards

## Undergrads

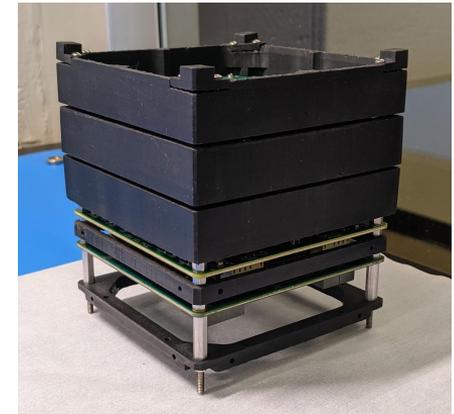
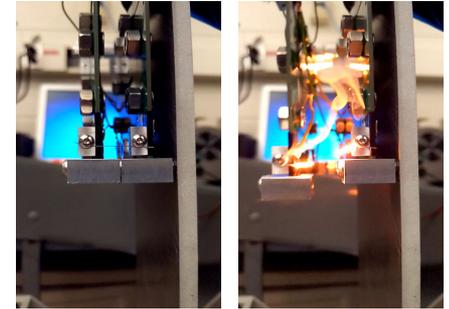
About 10 involved in  
parts of the mission!

## Review Team

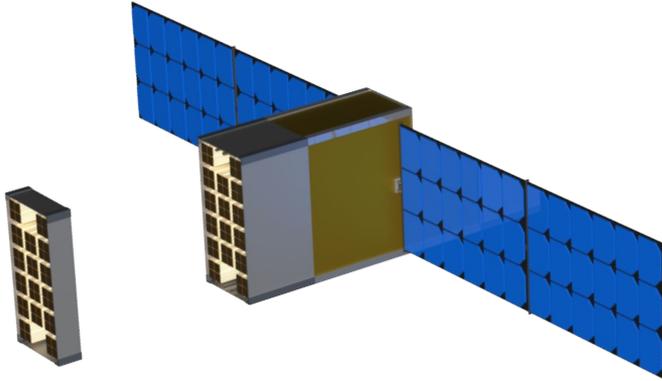
NASA JPL  
MIT Lincoln Labs  
MIT Haystack  
Irvine CubeSat  
KTH Stockholm



Dedicated Lab Space



Payload Development 12



# Thank You

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